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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SCCT-01 USSS-00 PM-03 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05  
NSCE-00 /043 W

O 091850Z MAY 75  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1124  
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

082181

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

( ) Release (X) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s): B1

Declassify: (X) In Part ( ) In Full

(X) Classify as C ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to

Date 4/30/04 Declassify on Reason 25X

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 3227

DEPT FOR A/SY, A/SY/FO PASS TO DIA; PANAMA FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC, PINS  
SUBJ: THREAT TO ASSASSINATE COL SAMUEL STAPLETON, DATT,  
MAY 8, 1975

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS RELATED TO THE RSO BY COLONEL STAPLETON. HE ARRIVED HOME MAY 8, 1975 AT APPROXIMATELY 1800 HOURS. HIS DAUGHTER WAS ON THE FRONT PORCH OF THE HOUSE. SHE ADVISED HIM THAT SHE HAD ACCIDENTLY LOCKED HERSELF OUT. SHE ALSO INFORMED HIM OF THE FOLLOWING: UPON HER ARRIVAL AT HOME AT APPROXIMATELY 1500 HOURS MAY 8, THE TELEPHONE RANG, SHE ANSWERED THE PHONE IN SPANISH. THE CALLER ADVISED HER THAT "WE ARE GOING TO KILL YOUR HUSBAND". SHE HUNG UP THE PHONE. THE PHONE IMMEDIATELY RANG AGAIN, SHE ANSWERED IN SPANISH AND THE CALLER ADVISED "WE ARE GOING TO KILL YOUR HUSBAND TOMORROW AT 12:00". SHE HUNG THE PHONE UP, THE PHONE RANG AGAIN, SHE PICKED THE RECEIVER UP WITHOUT ANSWERING THE PHONE AND RECRADLED THE HAND SET BREAKING THE CONNECTION. THIS PROCESS WAS REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES. STAPLETON'S DAUGHTER BECAME NERVOUS OVER THE CONTINUOUS RINGING OF THE TELEPHONE AND LEFT THE HOUSE ERRONEIOUSLY LOCKING HERSELF OUT.

2. STAPLETON HAD PREVIOUSLY ADVISED THE AMBASSADOR OF THE

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INCIDENT.

3. ACTION BY RSO: IMMEDIATE ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE TO INCREASE THE 14 HOUR GUARD ON STAPLETON'S QUARTERS TO A 24 HOUR GUARD. A SECOND GUARD POSITION AT STAPLETON'S QUARTERS WAS ACTIVATED FOR A 48 HOUR PERIOD TO PROVIDE PATROL SERVICE AROUND THE BLOCK. PATROLING GUARD WAS EQUIPPED WITH WALKIE TALKIE FOR CONTACT PURPOSES WITH CONTRACTURAL GUARD SERVICE PATROL CARS. CONTRACTUAL SERVICE PATROL CARS WERE ALERTED TO POSSIBLE THREAT. FEDERAL POLICE LIAISON OFFICER WAS CALLED TO STAPLETON'S QUARTERS AND THOROUGHLY BRIEFED ON THE INCIDENT. THE STAPLETON'S HAD A REQUIRED SOCIAL FUNCTION WITH THE KOREAN DATT. THIS FUNCTION WAS IN STAPLETON'S HONOR. PER INSTRUCTIONS OF THE AMBASSADOR STAPLETON WAS PROVIDED LEAD CAR AND FOLLOW CAR COVERAGE FOR THIS PARTICULAR MOVEMENT, FOLLOWING WHICH STAPLETON SPENT THE NIGHT AT EMBASSY RESIDENCE IN GUESTROOM. STAPLETON HAS DEPARTED THE CITY FOR THE WEEKEND.

4. PROJECTED ACTION: SECURITY WATCH COMMITTEE WILL BE CONVENED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSESSING THESE THREATS AGAINST THE DATT. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WATCH COMMITTEE WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

5. RSO COMMENT: ATTENTION IS INVITED TO THE FOLLOWING AS BACKGROUND MATERIAL CONCERNING THE POTENTIAL THREAT AGAINST COLONEL STAPLETON: BA 1942; [

ATTENTION IS INVITED TO [ ] IN ADDITION,  
PRESS CONFERENCE WITH ERP LEADER MARIO ROBERTO SANTUCHO. ]  
THIS PARTICULAR DOCUMENT BECAUSE OF THE INDIVIDUALS POSITION IS FELT TO BE SIGNIFICANT SINCE IT APPEARS TO BE A STATEMENT OF GENERAL ERP POLICY. OTHER REPORTS CONTAIN VARIOUS INFORMATION INDICATING TARGET LEVEL OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, IT IS FELT THAT THE MOST RECENT REPORTS WERE THOSE TO WHICH ATTENTION SHOULD BE DRAWN.  
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